

Amendments to the Specification

At specification page 12, please replace the paragraph beginning with "The image reading part 1" with the following replacement paragraph:

The image reading part 1 has a box-shaped casing 501 formed of a synthetic resin, i.e. an alloy of acrylic butadiene styrene (ABS) and polycarbonate (PC) having a coefficient of linear thermal expansion of about 80×10^{-5} (/°C). The casing 501 includes a box-shaped lower casing 501a as a bottom of the casing 501 having an opening in an upper surface thereof and a cover-shaped upper casing 501b disposed above the lower casing 501a. The lower casing 501a has first and second case sidewalls 550a and 550b (see Fig. 2) spaced apart in a longitudinal direction (hereinafter referred to as a sub-scanning direction) of the casing 501. A platen 511 made of a transparent glass plate is attached to an upper surface of the upper casing 501b, and arranged substantially horizontally. An original is placed on the platen 511. In the casing 501, there are disposed an image reading unit 6 (arranged at a home position H (see Fig. 1) of the first case sidewall 550a side illustrated in Fig. 2) supported to be movable in the sub-scanning direction for reading an image on the original and a driving unit 520 arranged along the sub-scanning direction for driving the image reading unit 6.

At specification page 14, please replace the paragraph beginning with "As shown in Fig. 3" with the following replacement paragraph:

As shown in Fig. 3, the image reading unit 6 has a xenon lamp 602 with a rod shape extending in the sub-scanning direction and a substantially circular section for irradiating the original 609. The image reading unit 6 has also a box-shaped frame 601 formed of a synthetic resin for supporting the xenon lamp 602.

The frame 601 has an opening formed in an upper part thereof and a pair of sidewalls spaced apart in the main scanning direction (first and second sidewalls 60a and 60b shown in Fig. 4).

At specification pages 16-17, please replace the paragraph beginning with "As shown in Fig. 4" with the following replacement paragraph:

As shown in Fig. 4, the third and fourth mirrors 612 and 613 are provided with an angle along mountain shapes of the mountain shaped-support parts. On the outer sides of both the end parts of the third and fourth mirrors 612 and 613, metallic leaf springs 68a and 68b having four claws are provided. The upper surfaces of the third and fourth mirrors 612 and 613 are urged toward the mountain shaped support parts from above by the four claws of the leaf springs 68a and 68b. Thus, the third and fourth mirrors 612 and 613 are fixed to the frame 601. To the lamp fixing parts 69a and 69b, square shaped fixing parts 67a and 67b are fitted for accommodating the end parts of the xenon lamp ~~602~~ 602. As the xenon lamp 602, a fluorescent lamp filled with xenon gas is used. Inside the xenon lamp 602, a pair of electrodes is disposed along the main scanning direction. High voltage is applied between the electrodes to emit fluorescent light.

At specification page 20, please replace the paragraph beginning with "As shown in Fig. 7" with the following replacement paragraph:

As shown in Fig. 7, the fifth mirror 614 is inserted into the frame 601 from above. The image reading unit 6 includes the leaf springs 75a and 75b having claws extended vertically and downwardly. While the upper surfaces of the ends of the fifth

mirror 614 in the longitudinal direction abut against the lower surfaces of the leaf springs, the claws are fitted into fitting holes formed at the end parts of the third sidewall 63 of the frame 601. In such a manner, the fifth mirror 614 is urged to the flat semicircular protrusions 78a, 78b and 78c protruding on the first and second support plates 750a and 750b by the leaf springs 75a and 75b, and fixed and supported thereby (see Figs. 5(a) and 5(b)). As shown in Figs. 5(a) and 5(b), the end parts of the first and second support plates 750a and 750b near the protrusions 78a and 78b (dotted line parts ~~Shown~~ shown in Fig. 5) protrude in the frame 610.

At specification page 21, please replace the paragraph beginning with "Further" with the following replacement paragraph:

Further, the lens unit 604 comprises a plurality of image forming lenses (for instance, six lenses) having a converging and correcting function and a lens barrel for holding these lenses, and the lens unit is housed in the frame 601. A groove is formed in the outer peripheral surface of the lens barrel. On the upper part of the lens barrel, a leaf spring 701 having a slot and a pair of claws engaging the groove is fastened and fixed to the frame 601 by screws. The claws urge the lens barrel from above. While the claws of the leaf spring 701 engage the groove, the leaf spring 701 is moved in the sub-scanning direction (direction of an optical axis) along the slot of the leaf spring 701. Thus, the position of the lens unit in the direction of the optical axis can be adjusted. When the image reading unit 6 is assembled, the lens unit 604 and the image sensor 605 are respectively

adjusted and fixed at positions where the image of the original is accurately read by the image sensor 605 with a predetermined magnification.

At specification pages 25-26, please replace the paragraph beginning with "As shown in Figs. 2 and 11" with the following replacement paragraph:

As shown in Figs. 2 and 11, the driving unit 520 in the image reading part 1 includes a second reinforcing plate 551 made of an ordinary steel plate and disposed on the inner bottom surface of the lower casing 501a along the sub-scanning direction for reinforcing the lower casing 501a. The second reinforcing plate 551 is provided as a unit with a fan 508 at one end side of the sub-scanning direction and the home position side of the image reading unit 6; a motor PM1 at the other side of the sub-scanning direction and the end of the image reading unit 6; an inverter unit 505 disposed between the motor RM1 and the fan 508 and a drive transmitting part 519 for transmitting a power from the motor PM1 to the image reading unit 6. The drive transmitting part 519 includes a timing belt 510, a pulley P2, a pulley P3, the timing belt 507 and a pulley P4. The fan 508 supplies air to the second support plate 750b of the image reading unit 6. The motor PM1 serves as a power source for moving the image reading unit 6 in the sub-scanning direction. Further, on the second reinforcing plate 551, ~~an earth~~ a ground line is attached for discharging static electricity through the control panel 503.

At specification page 32, please replace the paragraph beginning with "Effects" with the following replacement paragraph:

Effects of the image reading apparatus 10 according to the embodiment of the present invention will be described below. In the image reading apparatus 10, the motor PM1, the inverter unit 505, the fan 508 and the drive transmitting part 519 are fixed to the second reinforcing plate 551 made of metal to form a driving unit. Therefore, ~~an earth~~ a ground line may be provided only in the second reinforcing plate 551. The ~~earth~~ ground line does not need to be respectively attached to the parts. Thus, the number of parts can be reduced. Further, in the image reading apparatus 10, the parts can be respectively attached to the lower casing 501a integrally together with the second reinforcing plate 551. Accordingly, the parts do not need to be respectively attached to the lower casing 501a to improve assembly characteristics.